

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving a search query;

performing a search in response to the query to determine which documents are related to [[a]] the search query, the search being performed, on a database including a plurality of document categories, to obtain a list of search results corresponding to each of at least two of the categories, the plurality of document categories including an image category;

ranking the lists of search results relative to one another based on a content of documents in each of the lists of search results; and

generating a document in which the search results are placed in an organization determined based, at least in part, on the ranking of the lists of search results.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the organization of the generated document includes two or more of the lists of search results placed in a separate section.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein more highly ranked lists of search results are displayed more prominently in the generated document than less highly ranked lists of search results.

4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the generated document includes the search results as hyper-text transfer protocol (HTTP) links.
5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the more highly ranked lists of search results are displayed in sections that include more links than the sections corresponding to the less highly ranked lists of search results.
6. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein at least one of the sections includes a title describing the category corresponding to the section.
7. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein at least one of the sections includes a link to additional search results for the category corresponding to the section.
8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the generated document is a web page.
9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein ranking the lists of search results is performed based on documents in the lists of search results.
10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein ranking the lists of search results is performed based on the search query.

11. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein a most highly ranked list of search results is displayed on a left hand side of the generated document.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the categories additionally include a news category or a product category.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the categories additionally include a general web page category.

14. (currently amended) A search engine comprising:
a search component configured to identify which documents are related to a search query from a database including a plurality of document categories, the search component obtaining a list of search results corresponding to each of at least two of the categories;

a ranking component configured to rank the lists of search results relative to one another, the ranking being based on a comparison of the search query to contents of documents in the list of search results corresponding to each of the at least two of the categories and ~~including looking for terms in the search query that tend to indicate a particular document category is likely to be related to the search query;~~ and

an interface generation component configured to generate a document in which the search results are organized based, at least in part, on the ranking of the lists of search results.

15. (previously presented) The search engine of claim 14, wherein the organization of the search results includes at least two of the lists of search results placed in a separate section.

16. (original) The search engine of claim 15, wherein more highly ranked lists of search results are displayed more prominently in the generated document than less highly ranked lists of search results.

17. (original) The search engine of claim 15, wherein at least one of the sections includes a link to additional search results for the category corresponding to the section.

18. (original) The search engine of claim 14, wherein the generated document is a web page.

19. (cancel)

20. (cancel)

21. (currently amended) A method of organizing documents categorized into a plurality of categories, the method comprising:
receiving a search query;

performing a search in response to the query ~~based on the search query~~ in each of the plurality of categories to locate the documents;

ranking the plurality of categories relative to one another based on contents of the documents in each of the categories, the ranking also including looking for terms in the search query that tend to indicate a particular document category is likely to be related to the search query; and

generating a results document in which the documents are organized by category and in which the documents of higher ranking categories are more prominently placed in the results document.

22. (cancel)

23. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the documents are placed in the results document as hyper-text transfer protocol (HTTP) links.

24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein links of the higher ranking categories are displayed in sections of the results document that include more links than the sections corresponding to links of lower ranking categories.

25. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the results document includes titles describing the categories.

26. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the results document includes links to additional search results for the categories.

27. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the results document is a web page.

28. (cancel)

29. (cancel)

30. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium containing programming instructions for execution by a processor, the computer-readable medium including:

instructions for receiving input documents categorized into a plurality of categories, the plurality of categories including an image category;

instructions for ranking the categories corresponding to the input documents based on contents of the input documents in each of the categories; and

instructions for generating a results document in which the input documents are organized by category and in which the input documents of higher ranking categories are more prominently placed in the results document.

31. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 30, further comprising:

instructions for receiving a search query; and

instructions for performing a search based on the search query in at least two categories to locate the input documents.

32. (new) The method of claim 1, where ranking the lists of search results relative to one another includes:

calculating values that define a closeness of a comparison of the search query to the documents in each of the lists of search results; and

ranking the lists of search results based on the calculated values.

33. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 30, where the instructions for ranking the input documents based on contents of the input documents in each of the categories further includes:

instructions for calculating values that define a closeness of a comparison of a search query to the input documents in each of the categories; and

instructions for ranking the categories based on the calculated values.